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SECURITY INFORMATION  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO.

25X1A

## INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO.

COUNTRY USSR (Kuibyshev Oblast)

DATE DISTR.

6 March 1952

SUBJECT Railroad Bridge Over the Volga River Near Batraki

NO. OF PAGES

1

PLACE  
ACQUIRED

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REF ID: A66212

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SOURCE

1. Location: The Batraki (48°01'N 53°10'E) railroad bridge, Kuibyshev Oblast, is located about 12.5 km southeast of the town, near Prava.
2. Type of construction: The bridge is about 900 meters long and 4.5 meters wide. It has one track and narrow sidewalks. The structure is a steel truss bridge resting on nine river piers. At the level of the river these piers are about 4 meters thick, at the top they are 1.5 meters. The truss is about 6 meters high. Piers and one abutment are of boulders, the northern abutment is of concrete. According to Soviets, the bridge was damaged by bombs during the war. This is why the second and third spans were replaced by arches. A second bridge, scheduled to carry a second track, has been under construction (3.6 meters from the first bridge) since 1945. At the end of the reported period two piers and two arches were completed. At mean water level the bridge had a clearance of about 30 meters.
3. Work force: Only bolshaks were employed for the construction of the bridge. Since trucks were forbidden to cross the bridge the PW labor details had to be brought across the river in motor boats. The PWs were forbidden to look at the bridge and had to cover their heads with tent canvas.

Attachment: Sketch of the railroad bridge across the Volga River near Batraki.

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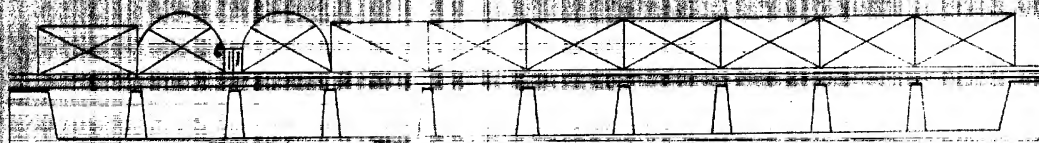
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*Attachment*

Railroad Bridge over the Volga River near Batumi

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*not to scale*

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